

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

Please change the title of the invention to:

VACUUM PROCESSING METHOD

Page 1, between the title of the invention and line 2, insert the following new paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 10/218,406, filed August 15, 2002, the subject matter of which is incorporated by reference herein.